

In re: Takeishi et al.  
Serial No.: 10/730,638  
Filed: December 8, 2003

### REMARKS

Claims 1–6 and 8 are pending in the present application. Applicants respectfully acknowledge the indication by the Examiner that Claims 1–6 are directed toward allowable subject matter. Applicants believe that the amendment provided herein places this application in better condition for allowance or appeal and raises no new issues, to which Applicants respectfully request entry thereof and further consideration of the application in view of the present amendment and the comments below.

### Support for Claim Amendments

The amendment presented above have been made to recite particular embodiments of the inventions so as to expedite the prosecution of the present application to allowance in accordance with the USPTO Patent Business Goals (65 Fed. Reg. 54603, September 8, 2000). These amendments do not represent an acquiescence or agreement with any of the outstanding rejections.

Applicants amend Claim 8 herein to more particularly point out what Applicants regard as the invention. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification and in the claims as originally filed. The points raised by the Examiner in the Action are addressed hereinbelow in the order in which they are presented in the Action.

### Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. § 103, Cai et al.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,627,572 B1 to Cai et al. (“Cai et al.”). Applicants amend Claim 8 herein to recite a method for producing the catalyst of Claims 1 or 3. In view of the foregoing, Applicants present that Claim 8 as amended is not obvious, to which Applicants respectfully request that the instant rejection be withdrawn.

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### CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the points and concerns raised by the Examiner in the Final Action have been addressed in full, and it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned Attorney at (919) 854-1400 to expedite the prosecution of this application to allowance.

No fee is believed due with this paper. Applicants believe this amount to be correct; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any refund to Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,



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Tracy Wallace

